

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE 13AU S A TODAY
3 December 1985**PETER B. GEMMA JR.****An opposing view**

Take radical steps to curb the spying

FALLS CHURCH, Va. — The facts, sadly, are now all too familiar. Since 1981, 34 people have been charged with selling out our country as spies of foreign governments. In just the past few weeks, four citizens have been accused of such traitorous activity.

The threat to U.S. technological and military secrets has reached critical proportions.

There are, simply, two ways to combat this threat.

Domestically, spies should face swift and sure punishment. Navy Secretary John Lehman has rightfully advocated the death penalty for convicted spies. Handing convicted spymaster John Walker a limited jail term with a chance for parole in only eight years can hardly be viewed as a deterrent to treachery.

The enormous trade missions and diplomatic staffs of countries like Communist China, Libya and the Soviet Union should be pared down. Secretary of State George Shultz, at Geneva, conceded the opening of new Soviet consulates in the USA as a gesture of friendship. Based on past dealings with the Reds, this kind of access and accommodation poses a direct threat to our vital interests.

Sen. Patrick Moynihan, D-N.Y., has pointed out the failure of government watchdog agencies to plug holes in our intelligence defense systems. For example, the USA has not outlawed the interception by computer devices of microwave telephone conversations, although a presidential commis-

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sion reported 10 years ago that the Soviet Union had begun a massive invasion of such communications.

However, to strike back at only the spies themselves is to treat the symptom and not the problem. We must go to the source.

Righteous indignation is scriptural and it's about time we got indignant with those foreign powers who snoop and steal. Some may think such actions are radical; but after all, we've yanked our ambassadors for much less.

■ Our wheat can be sold to a score of starving nations instead of to the Soviet Union.

■ Canceling the proposed building of a \$98 million ammunition plant for Communist China makes good sense in light of their covert actions against the USA.

■ Slowing down the increase, even temporarily, of munitions and technology for Israel will make that dependent state more sensitive to U.S. priorities and principles.

Those tempted to become turncoats must have a real deterrent in the law. And certainly U.S. security systems have to be overhauled. More than that, however, U.S. relations with other nations should be tempered by our experiences with their covert conspiracies.

In short, we must up the ante for spying.